

dollar derivatives market and strip away key reforms contained in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform law.

Although the stated intent of H.R. 3336 is to increase credit availability to small businesses, it would do nothing more than provide a loophole for participants in the derivatives market to escape oversight and evade accountability. For the past two years, the CFTC and other government regulators of Wall Street have accepted public comments and participated in public hearings in an effort to implement sensible regulations that do not constrain credit lending to small businesses. Furthermore, the Dodd-Frank law already contains protections for small financial institutions, commercial businesses, and investors that use derivatives for legitimate hedging of risk.

H.R. 3336 would exempt large financial institutions with up to \$200 billion in credit derivatives exposure from CFTC oversight. In addition, the bill could also exempt major oil companies such as Shell Oil and Koch Trading from oversight for their swaps dealing activities in the energy market, allowing for more financial speculation that drives up the price of gasoline. Given the crucial role of derivatives in the 2008 financial crisis, eliminating these important CFTC protections would jeopardize investor confidence and threaten the stability of our financial sector.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 3336.

BOSNIA TWENTY YEARS AFTER THE WAR BEGAN

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the twentieth anniversary of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina, which was launched with full force by militants under the direction of Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic. It was as a result of this conflict that the phrase "ethnic cleansing" entered our vocabulary. Pictures from mass graves in Europe were no longer confined to history books but to the front pages of our daily newspapers.

As a Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission during most of that time, I participated in the efforts to document the atrocities taking place in Bosnia as well as in the efforts to develop effective policy responses. The Commission, as many of you know well, is mandated to monitor and encourage compliance with the Helsinki Final Act, and the aggression against Bosnia unquestionably constituted a significant violation of Helsinki principles. And it occurred, not during the Cold War, but when Europe was in the process of re-uniting and becoming more democratic.

Unfortunately, despite the many Members of Congress from both chambers and both parties who worked tirelessly for decisive action, for too long the international community was slow to respond. While outside intervention was ruled out, an arms embargo denied a UN member its right to self-defense. Ongoing diplomatic negotiations muted official outrage over the killing of innocent civilians. The senseless shelling of cities and sniper attacks on pedestrians were blamed not on the individuals committing those acts but on history itself and presumed ancient hatreds. Ulti-

mately, it took the genocide in Srebrenica in July 1995 to compel action on the part of the international community and to create a consensus in this country on the need for U.S. leadership.

The twentieth anniversary of the Bosnian conflict should not, however, be remembered only with remorse. It should also be a time for renewed commitment by all of us to learn from the past. In response to the Bosnian conflict, NATO made a decision to transition from a purely defensive alliance to one that operates "out-of-area" in a peacemaking and peacekeeping capacity for the sake of international security. In response to the conflict, the international community decided for the first time since World War II to bring to justice those who committed war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. In response to what happened in Bosnia, we decided to start the technically difficult and emotionally agonizing task of locating missing persons, in order to bring closure to surviving friends and family and the traumatized communities and societies in which they live.

Joined by some of my colleagues still serving in this chamber, I stood over a mass grave in Bosnia as it was being excavated in 1998, and the experience is something I will never forget.

I want to conclude by offering the Bosnian conflict as a good example of the Congressional role in foreign policy making and why we cannot ignore foreign policy responsibilities. Congress played a key role in eventually getting the policy back on track, which ultimately led to the American leadership that brought the Bosnian conflict to an end with the Dayton Agreement. We, in this chamber, give our foreign policy its democratic context and ensure that human rights, free elections, the rule of law, and other issues are key elements in how we approach foreign policy. I ask all my colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, to keep this in mind as we respond to the global challenges of today.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEU'S SECOND INAUGURATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwan President Ma Ying-Jeou on his second inauguration, to take place on May 20, 2012.

The free and fair January election continued Taiwan's long tradition of being a strong and stable democracy. On October 10, 2011, Taiwan celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding. In the past century, Taiwan has matured into a free market, multi-party democracy that is a model for the world. Taiwan is an important partner in maintaining peace and stability in the region, and channels of communication have been open and smooth between Washington and Taipei.

As a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I have had the privilege to travel to Taiwan last year as part of a bipartisan delegation. I had the pleasure of meeting President Ma Ying-Jeou and other government officials. I was strongly encouraged by their commitment to maintaining strong ties with the United States.

As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I am also pleased to note Taiwan's nomination for inclusion in the U.S. Visa Waiver, VWP, program in December 2011. A key step towards their VWP status came when a U.S. Department of Homeland Security team recently visited Taiwan to inspect the island's anti-terrorism and immigration procedures. I continue to support Taiwan's inclusion in key international organizations, and I believe we can set a strong example at home by granting these privileges.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma on his upcoming inauguration. I look forward to maintaining the strong U.S.-Taiwan relations under his leadership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 26 and Friday, April 27, I was unable to vote due to a personal event.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 182—"yes"—H. Res. 631, On Ordering the Previous Question for consideration of H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 183—"yes"—H. Res. 631, On Agreeing to the Resolution for consideration of H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 184—"no"—Langevin Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 185—"yes"—Rogers (MI) Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 186—"yes"—Quayle Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 187—"yes"—Amash Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 188—"yes"—Mulaney Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 189—"yes"—Goodlatte Amendment to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 190—"yes"—Mulaney Amendment #15 to H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 191—"no"—Democrat Motion to Recommit on H.R. 3523.

On rollcall No. 192—"yes"—H.R. 3523, Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act.

On rollcall No. 193—"yes"—H.R. 2096, Cybersecurity Enhancement Act.

On rollcall No. 194—"no"—Motion to Recommit to H.R. 4628.

On rollcall No. 195—"yes"—H.R. 4628, Interest Rate Reduction Act.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING MASS ATROCITIES ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 27, 2012

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in somber recognition of the lives lost through heinous acts of violence against Armenian civilians following World War I. April 24th marked the symbolic recognition of a period in history when over 1 million Armenian people were killed.